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would be glad to hear from any who have suggestions to make at this time, and if not now, through the medium of correspondence ; for we certainly all desire alike, now that this Association has undertaken the work, to make it so efficient and practical as to produce the best possible results. Our comparatively new country is, in these days of a new century, in many matters of great importance, now setting a worthy example before the world. May we of this Association properly do the part which falls to our share.

Your new Committee of five have all been consulted in person or by correspondence, before this report was prepared, and in the suggestions which it contains, they are practically one.

The Easter Annual, *Comrades All*, not having paid expenses, and having been supported, largely, thus far, by the liberality of W. T. Stead, of the *Review of Reviews*, it is proposed that its publication be no longer continued. This your committee can but regret, believing that it has done good service in interesting students in the International Correspondence, on both sides of the Atlantic. But of this our generous benefactor must be himself the judge.

In view of this discontinuance, as it will of course be no longer offered as prizes to our new correspondents, we propose to diminish the charge for applicants for correspondents, from 25 cents, the charge the past year, to 10 cents each. We believe that this price will be satisfactory to all, and that it can be made to cover expenses of this bureau without any expense to the Modern Language Association. We desire also to make a special appeal to the German Bureau, to make no further charge for the American students ; doing the same for us as we have always done by the German students, and for making this reasonable recommendation we ask the approval of the Modern Language Association at the coming meeting at the University of Michigan.

EDWARD H. MAGILL, *Chairman*.

The report was approved and the Committee was continued.

The Committee on Bibliography submitted the following report, which, in the absence of the Chairman, Professor H. A. Todd, was read by Professor F. N. Scott :

At the meeting of the Modern Language Association held at Baltimore in December, 1903, a resolution was offered by Professor Fred. N. Scott, and passed by the Association, calling on the Committee on Bibliography to prepare and publish a bibliography of American contributions to the philology and literature of English, German, and the Romance languages for the years 1901 and 1902, and appropriating \$250, or such part of this sum as might be necessary, to cover the expense of the undertaking.

Inasmuch as it was foreseen by the Committee that the bibliography of the contributions to English would greatly exceed in extent that of the other departments included in the scope of the resolution, it was thought desirable to add to the representation of English on the Committee, and Professor F. N. Scott assented to a request of the Chairman to serve as an additional member for English.

As the result of an interchange of views among the members of the Committee, it was decided, in prosecuting the preliminary work on the bibliography, not to depend primarily on responses to circulars of inquiry to be forwarded to the various institutions of learning and agencies for publication in America; but to utilize, in the first instance and as far as possible, all the bibliographical aids available in the best libraries, resorting to letters of inquiry only in directions where the above-mentioned facilities were found to fail.

The most important consideration in connection with the practical formulation of the material accumulated, was to determine whether it was desirable and feasible, in addition to the necessary author-catalogue, or index, to present an analytically arranged subject-bibliography. In view of the tentative nature of the undertaking and of the uncertainty as to the amount of material to be treated and the consequent expense involved, it was determined to rest content, at any rate in the first instalment of the proposed bibliography, with an alphabetical author-catalogue, divided, however, into the three parts contemplated by the resolution.

Of the difficulties encountered in the revision of material for the press, not the most easily overcome was that of deciding, in doubtful cases, as to the American origin, or otherwise, of certain of the contributions under consideration. Scrutiny of the printed lists ready for distribution at the present meeting, has already disclosed, the Committee regret to say, some instances of mistaken nationality. Nor are the Committee prepared to believe that all other faults, blemishes, errors and omissions have been completely eliminated from the sheets presented in connection with this report. They have accordingly thought it best to submit to the present meeting a limited edition of their bibliography, withholding it temporarily from general distribution to the members of the Association, in order that an opportunity may be afforded for the introduction of additions and emendations.

The Committee have under advisement the general question of the desirability of making an American bibliography (annual or biennial) a permanent feature of the Publications of the Association, but are not ready at this time to make a definite recommendation on the subject.

All the items of expenditure have not yet been submitted to the Committee, but it appears possible that the amount originally appropriated may not be quite sufficient to cover them.

H. A. TODD, *Chairman*.

On motion of Professor Calvin Thomas, the report was approved, the Committee was continued, and the question of expenditure was referred with power to the Executive Council.

Professor O. F. Emerson, on behalf of the American Dialect Society, gave a very brief outline of dialect investigation. His communication was accepted with thanks.

In the evening the members of the Association were entertained at the University Club in Detroit. Professor Calvin Thomas gave a smoke talk.

FOURTH SESSION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30.

The session began at 10 a. m.

The Auditing Committee reported that the Treasurer's report was found correct, and recommended its acceptance. The recommendation was adopted. On motion of the Committee, it was voted also :

That the Secretary of the Association be authorized, during the year 1904, to draw upon the Treasurer, for clerical or other assistance, the sum of \$200 in addition to his regular annual appropriation.

The Nominating Committee reported the following nominations :

President : George Lyman Kittredge, Harvard University.
First Vice-President : W. H. Carruth, Univ. of Kansas.
Second Vice-President : Raymond Weeks, Univ. of Missouri.
Third Vice-President : F. N. Scott, University of Michigan.
Secretary : C. H. Grandgent, Harvard University.
Treasurer : H. C. G. von Jagemann, Harvard University.

Executive Council.

F. M. Warren, Yale University.
H. C. G. Brandt, Hamilton College.

F. B. Gummere, Haverford College.
J. B. Henneman, University of the South.
J. E. Matzke, Leland Stanford Jr. University.
A. R. Hohlfeld, University of Wisconsin.
C. A. Smith, University of North Carolina.

Editorial Committee.

Calvin Thomas, Columbia University.
James W. Bright, Johns Hopkins University.

The candidates nominated were elected officers of the Association for 1904. The Secretary of the Association and the Secretary of the Division [Professor Raymond Weeks] are members of the Editorial Committee *ex officio*.

[Inasmuch as Professor A. R. Hohlfeld, being elected Chairman of the Division, became thereby a member *ex officio* of the Executive Council, it became necessary for the Council to choose an additional member. Professor George Hempl, of the University of Michigan, was selected.]

[In October Professor H. C. G. von Jagemann was compelled by ill health to resign his office, and Mr. W. G. Howard, of Harvard University, was elected Treasurer by the Executive Council.]

The Committee on Place of Meeting moved that the selection of a place be left to the Executive Council, with a recommendation in favor of Brown University. The motion was carried.

[The Executive Council subsequently accepted the following invitation from Brown University :

BROWN UNIVERSITY, PROVIDENCE, *December 18, 1903.*

I beg leave, on behalf of Brown University, to invite the Modern Language Association to meet with the University in Providence at its next annual meeting. I have recently held a conference of the Departments of the English, Romance, and Germanic Languages here, and they unite with me in extending this invitation. Providence is, as you know, a city easily

accessible from several directions, a city of great historic interest, and one where there are many students of language. We should welcome the coming of the Association and do all in our power to make the occasion pleasant as well as profitable.

W. H. P. FAUNCE, *President*.]

The Nominating Committee for the Division nominated the following Division officers, who were elected :

Chairman : A. R. Hohlfeld, University of Wisconsin.

Secretary : Raymond Weeks, University of Missouri.

Advisory Committee.

F. N. Scott, University of Michigan.

C. W. Pearson, Beloit College.

B. L. Bowen, Ohio State University.

The Committee on Place of Meeting for the Division recommended the acceptance of the invitation of Northwestern University to meet in Chicago, and an expression of thanks to the University of Wisconsin. The recommendation was adopted.

Professor O. F. Emerson presented a report for the Committee on Spelling. The report was approved and the Committee was continued. The President of the Association announced the appointment of the members of the Committee on Spelling as members of a joint committee of the National Educational Association, the American Philological Association, and the Modern Language Association of America, to devise a phonetic notation for common use in dictionaries and other works of reference. On motion of Professor O. F. Emerson, the appointment was approved.

On motion of Professor Raymond Weeks, it was

Resolved, That we, the members of the Modern Language Association of America, in meeting assembled, desire to place

on record our sincere and heartfelt sorrow at the loss, during the past year, of five of our number : Gaston Paris, Thomas R. Price, Ernst August Eggers, Louis Emil Menger, and Charles Chollet.

The reading of papers was resumed.

9. "Lessing and Shakespeare." By Mr. F. W. Meisnest, of the University of Wisconsin. [See *Publications*, XIX, 2.]

[The purpose of the paper was to show that Lessing's knowledge of Shakespeare was largely at second hand, and that his part in introducing Shakespeare in Germany has been overestimated.—*Fifteen minutes*.]

This paper was discussed by Professors W. H. Hulme and Calvin Thomas.

10. "The Religion of Friedrich Schiller." By Professor W. H. Carruth, of the University of Kansas. [See *Publications* XIX, 4.]

[The current judgments of Schiller's religious attitude are still from the standpoint of the eighteenth century. There is need of a revision of such judgments. Material for the investigation of the subject is now fairly complete :—(1) The evidence of others ; (2) The evidence of Schiller's own writings : *a*) letters, *b*) essays and histories, *c*) lyrics and ballads, *d*) dramas. Limitations to the validity of evidence from the dramas.—Schiller's opinions and beliefs in youth ; in middle life. Absence of any violent revolution. Views or beliefs on : *a*) God, *b*) immortality, *c*) Jesus, *d*) the church and organized religion, *e*) the Bible, *f*) prayer, *g*) dogmas and doctrines.—Summary and conclusion.—*Twenty minutes*.]

This paper was discussed by Professors J. T. Hatfield and Calvin Thomas.

11. "Notes on the Influence of E. T. A. Hoffmann upon Edgar Allan Poe." By Professor Gustav Gruener, of Yale University. [See *Publications*, XIX, 1.]

[After a brief synopsis of the conflicting views concerning the influence of Hoffmann upon Poe, mention was made of the various French and Eng-

lish translations of Hoffmann before Poe's early works. Some observations on *The Tales of the Folio Club*, the *Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque*, and on certain peculiarities in Poe's style were then adduced, which seem to furnish tangible evidence of a direct and striking influence of the German upon the American author.—*Thirty minutes.*]

12. "The Most Fundamental Differentia of Prose and Poetry." By Professor F. N. Scott, of the University of Michigan. [See *Publications*, XIX, 2.]

[The paper attempted to show, following the argument of J. S. Mill, that the characteristic differentia of prose and poetry is not peculiar to literature, but runs through all the other arts, giving rise in each to a bifurcation more or less distinctly marked. It springs from the two-fold character of art as being on one side a process of expression, on the other side a process of communication. All art is both expressive and communicative, but in a particular art-product emphasis may be thrown upon one side rather than upon the other. When the emphasis falls upon the expressive side, the art-product has the peculiar quality which we call poetic; when the emphasis falls upon the communicative side, the quality is prosaic. Reduced to a formula: Poetry is communication in language for expression's sake; prose is expression in language for communication's sake.—*Twenty minutes.*]

This paper was discussed by Professor E. H. Magill, Dr. H. P. Thieme, Professor M. W. Wallace, Dr. G. E. Kars-ten, and Professors J. S. Nollen, A. W. James, G. Hempl, and L. F. Mott.

Professor L. F. Mott offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Modern Language Association of America tenders its cordial thanks to the authorities of the University of Michigan and to the ladies of the University circle for their handsome entertainment of our members, and to the local committee for their admirable arrangements both at Ann Arbor and at Detroit, which have made our twenty-first meeting so pleasant and so successful.

The resolution was carried by a rising vote of the Association.

[The American Dialect Society held its annual meeting at 2 p. m. in the Banquet Hall of the Cadillac Hotel.]

FIFTH SESSION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30.

The fifth and last session began at 2.30 p. m.

13. "The Influence of Jean Chapelain upon French Criticism." By Mr. W. O. Farnsworth, of Yale University.

[His importance in literary history is as a critic, not as a poet. He is underestimated by those writers who neglect his critical work, overestimated by those who try to excuse his poetical faults. Testimony of his contemporaries as to his authority. His theories and their effect. Causes of the decline of his influence. What is a proper estimate of his work? Value of his Correspondence, published in 1880.—*A ten-minute abstract.*]

14. "Chaucer and Lollius." By Professor James W. Bright, of the Johns Hopkins University. In the absence of the author, the paper was presented, somewhat abridged, by Professor F. G. Hubbard.

[Chaucer does not "attribute to Lollius," as Professor Lounsbury holds, his version of the eighty-eighth sonnet of Petrarch (*Troilus*, I, 400 f.), and it is only Boccaccio that he has styled Lollius,—not "a definite person, whom in one case we can see to be Petrarch, and in the other to be Boccaccio" (Lounsbury, *Studies in Chaucer*, II, 225, 236, 405, 408, 410). In the indulgence of a whim, Chaucer has converted a name that was more or less cacophonous to the English ear, not hypocoristically, and not satirically, but playfully, and with the semblance of a literal translation, into a well-sounding name with a Latin ending, with the help of a word (and its derivatives) which was then greatly in vogue.

The habit of etymologizing names and toying with imputed meanings morally, satirically, jocosely, was characteristic of the medieval mind. Witness the *Legenda Aurea*. Not to do more than to recall this fashion which Dean Swift once ridiculed so finely, suggests the 'mind and art' in which we find Chaucer indulging in such banalities as

"A Long Castle, with walles Whyte
By Saint John, on a Riche Hill."—Skeat, v, 490.

Closer to the style of Voragine is the 'wikked nest' of *The Monkes Tale* (B. 3576).